

II. UNITED STATES SPORT/RECREATION

II-1

Rader, Benjamin G. "The Quest for Subcommunities and the Rise of American Sport," *American Quarterly*, 29, No. 4 (Fall 1977), 355-369.

The rise of American sport in the latter 19th century was intimately connected with the rise in status-conscious communities as well as ethnic sub-communities. The first baseball clubs before the Civil War were more middleclass than working class. Even more class-conscious were the postbellum athletic clubs which effectively excluded poor track and field competitors. But by the turn of the century, athletic clubs had become more concerned with building "palatial clubhouses" than improving existing facilities, its critics lamented. Tennis flourished at wealthy Newport, Rhode Island, and golf spurred the expansion of elite country clubs. The emergence of sporting subcommunities may have been a quest for city-wide, regional, or even national communities. Based on secondary works; 27 notes.

Lee Elihu Lowenfish

II-2

Overfield, Joseph. "James 'Deacon' White," *Baseball Research Journal*, 4 (1975), 1-11.

When he died a nonagenarian in 1939, "Deacon" Jim White was the oldest living major leaguer and a living link between baseball's beginning and its maturity. A brilliant player for Wright's Association champions of 1872-75 and a folk hero as one of baseball's "Big Four" of the eighties, White was a superstar during major league baseball's formative years. Before retiring from active play at age 42 in 1890, White played on National League champion teams at Boston and Detroit. Based on newspaper sources. No notes.

David Q. Voigt

II-3

Tattersall, John C. "Clarifying an Early Home Run Record," *Baseball Research Journal*, 1, (1972), 16-17.

The leading authority on major league homeruns discloses how the Chicago White Stockings in the years 1878-1884 used their Lake Front ballpark with its short, 230-foot rightfield fence to set distance hitting records that went unsurpassed until this century. In 1884 the White Stockings changed the ground rules allowing balls hit over the short fence to be counted as home runs. This enabled Ed Williamson and Adrian Anson to set records of hitting three home runs in a single game. Williamson also set a record of 27 home runs that remained intact until 1920. No notes.

David Q. Voigt

II-4

Smith, Dean. "The Black Sox Scandal," *American History Illustrated*, 11, No. 9 (January 1977) 16-24.

Eight Chicago White Sox baseball players conspired with gamblers to throw the 1919 World Series against the Cincinnati Reds. Although they were found innocent by a Grand Jury, Baseball Commissioner Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis found their complicity great enough to ban them from organized baseball for life. Relying heavily on his interviews with Jim Crusinberry, the Chicago *Tribune* reporter who uncovered the story, Smith attempts to piece together the conflicting reports. He also summarizes the role the sport played in the immediate post-war years,

the impact of Judge Landis' ruling on cleaning up baseball, and the remainder of the eight ballplayers' lives.

Garold Cole

II-5

Reed, Billy. "Second Time for VanderMeer," *Sports Illustrated*, 31, No. 12 (Sept. 1969), M5-M6.

Johnny VanderMeer, for the second game in a row, pitched a no-hitter. The game was played on June 13, 1938, at Brooklyn's Ebbets Field. It was also the first official major league game ever played at night in New York City. Perhaps it was the lights that helped VanderMeer to his second straight no-hitter. He was the first pitcher in baseball history to accomplish this remarkable feat. Unfortunately, towards the end of the season, he injured his shoulder, and the next season he fell from national idol to national disappointment. After that he never regained his form. No notes.

Maxine Grace Hunter

II-6

Lieb, Frederick G. "Baseball is Still the National Sport," *Baseball Research Journal*, 1 (1972), 22-27.

The octogenarian Fred Lieb is the dean of baseball writers and the author of more than a dozen histories on various facets of the major league game. Drawing upon his experiences covering big league games since 1904, Lieb recalls changes in ballpark construction, players' performances, officiating, sportswriting techniques and such technological developments as radio and TV to show how the game kept pace with social change. No notes.

David Q. Voigt

II-7

Obojski, Robert. "Baseball is the National Game of Japan," *Baseball Research Journal*, 5 (1976), 21-27.

Japanese acceptance of baseball began about 1873 and soon won approval from feudal lords who viewed the game as a martial sport. In the 1930s, Japan's first professional league emerged from the popular enthusiasm generated by touring American major leaguers. Notwithstanding wartime disruption, professional baseball in Japan surged anew after

1945 to become the national game of Japan. Obojski's article is a preface to his authoritative book, *The Rise of Japanese Baseball Power*. No notes.

David Q. Voigt

II-8

Magriel, Paul. "A Famous Maryland Prize Fight," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, 46 (December 1951), 290-296.

In antebellum America gangdom ruled prizefighting. To the dismay of state officials and private citizens, however, participants and their entourage of gamblers frequently uncovered remote corners in which to stage contests. In 1849 on Maryland's eastern shore, a typical, highly publicized match for \$10,000 occurred between Tom Hyer and "Yankee" James Sullivan. Despite repressive efforts by Maryland officials, two hundred spectators watched Hyer defeat Sullivan in a hastily contrived ring marked by pine stakes in the snow. Yet, for these fighter-boxers, glory was fleeting. Although they escaped the Marylanders, both eventually became victims of their profession; one to alcohol, the other to vigilantes. Based on an anonymous 1854 manuscript and a few newspaper accounts. No notes.

Nancy L. Struna

II-9

Lamoreaux, David, "Stover at Yale: and the Gridiron Metaphor," *Journal of Popular Culture*, 11, No. 2 (Fall 1977), 330-344.

Although *Stover At Yale* is read and widely remembered as another exciting story about football heroics at college, the author, Owen Johnson, intended the book to be an expose of snobbery at Yale amongst the clubs and other elite groups. Theodore Roosevelt met and liked young Johnson and told his friend Harvard President A. Lawrence Lowell that Johnson's book would be another fine addition to the muckraking literature against unwarranted privilege. But the football parts of *Stover At Yale* are the most vivid because Johnson and other Progressives saw football's "free struggle for leadership," "joyful competition," and "controlled scrimmage" as perfect metaphors for the kind of society based on merit and achievement in which they hoped to live. Based on the novel and secondary works; 53 notes.

Lee Elihu Lowenfish

II-10

Lane, Jack C. "The 1893 Georgia-Georgia Tech Game: Leonard Wood Leads His Team in Retreat from Victory," *American History Illustrated*, 1, No. 5 (August 1966), 23, 26.

General Leonard Wood led Georgia Tech to victory over the University of Georgia in the first game of this annual rivalry. Poor equipment and a near absence of rules governed the event, and the fans thoroughly enjoyed the spectacle of seeing countless injuries punctuate the brawl. Following the game, the eventual U.S. Army Chief-of-Staff hastily led his team aboard a moving freight train to escape a howling mob of Georgia fans.

Garold Cole

II-11

Breen, Timothy H. "Horses and Gentlemen: The Cultural Significance of Gambling Among the Gentry of Virginia," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 34 (April 1977), 239-257.

During the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, the Virginia gentry gambled passionately, especially at quarterhorse races. These inseparable activities reflected central elements of the emerging gentry culture. Numerous factors, including rigid social stratification, operated together to produce a multitude of social and political changes which directly cultivated the gentry interest in horseracing and gambling. Just as the native-born gentry gained autonomy over local affairs, horseracing and gambling provided non-violent outlets for their aggressive and often divisive tendencies. At the same time, these activities operated as agents of cohesion among men seeking to define themselves as a native elite. Based on primary sources; 70 notes.

Nancy L. Struna

II-12

Isaac, Rhys. "Evangelical Revolt: The Nature of the Baptists' Challenge to the Traditional Order in Virginia, 1765-1775," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 31 (July 1974), 345-368.

In the aftermath of the Great Awakening, Virginia's Baptists rejected the dominant gentry style of life and the contemporary community bonded by display and convivial excess, especially in sport. In its place, they established a Christian brotherhood, a religious corporateness, grounded in a conversions experience. In the process, they disavowed traditional

avenues of communication and gatherings by which the community realized itself, such as horse races and cockfights. They condemned the gentry images of display and bearing, as evidenced by the horse, and encouraged solemnity and sobriety. The Baptist revolt was a radical social movement, with the attack on gentry values and mores reflected in sport as just one aspect of the larger conflict. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 60 notes.

Nancy L. Struna

II-13

Betts, John Rickards. "Agricultural Fairs and the Rise of Harness Racing," *Agricultural History*, 27, No. 3 (July 1953), 71-75.

Harness racing emerged at agricultural fairs during the middle of the nineteenth century as an adjunct of and a stimulus to the agricultural exhibition. Early resistance to such activity waned through the 1850s as the horse race gained status as a testing ground for scientific breeding. After a short disruption caused by the Civil War, harness racing reappeared as a significant development on the American sporting scene and helped make the agricultural fair an event of community and regional importance. Based on primary sources, newspapers, secondary works; 30 notes.

Tony Ladd

II-14

Hanlon, John. "A Posh Game in a Posh Town," *Sports Illustrated*, 31, No. 13 (September 1969), M3-M4.

The first international polo match in North America was played in 1886 at the posh resort town of Newport, Rhode Island. The Hurlingham Club of England and New York's Westchester Polo Club were the combatants in this historical event. Although the competition was slightly marred by the ungentlemanly conduct of the British team captain, John Watson, it was the social highlight of the year. The competition consisted of three matches which Britons won. Before leaving for home, the Hurlingham players sold their horses and equipment. With extra cash and the \$1,000 cup in hand, it was clear that the British "had carried the day." No notes.

Maxine Grace Hunter

II-15

Orians, G. Harrison. "The Origin of the Ring Tournament in the United States," *Maryland Historical Magazine*, 36, (September 1941) 263-277.

The first American ring tournament occurred just north of Baltimore, Maryland in 1840. It was modeled after the Scottish tournament. No primary records exist to substantiate claims of other historians that the southern tournaments existed during the colonial or early national periods; in fact, those arguments have been dismissed as romantic claims. After 1840, however, riding at the ring and tilting at the quintain occurred as annual festivals and spread south and west from Maryland and Virginia. Organized by and for the self-styled chevaliers, these events regularly invigorated social gatherings as far west as Texas until 1860 and intermittently thereafter. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 51 notes.

Nancy L. Struna

II-16

MacDonald, Donald. "The Linville Highland Games and the Gathering of the Clans," *North Carolina Folklore*, 6, No. 2 (December 1958), 36-37.

The Linville Highland games are played each summer by Scottish clans gathered on Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina. Through dancing, track events, wrestling, "tossing the caber," and other similar events the games celebrate the lore and heritage of Scotland. Informally written. No notes.

Tony Ladd

II-17

Bridenbaugh, Carl. "Baths and Watering Places of Colonial America," *William and Mary Quarterly*, 3, (April 1946), 151- 181.

After 1760 warm springs and baths provided significant opportunities for gatherings of colonial Americans, especially the gentry. These meeting places increased intercolonial communication and cooperation, nourished "nascent 'Americanism,'" and provided unreliable cures for numerous illnesses. Colonials flocked to watering places in New England, the Philadelphia area, and back country Virginia in search of improved health and recreation. Aided by enterprising hostellers and improved roads, visitors frequently found adequate lodging, food and

diversions—all of which increased the sociability of those who took the leisure to find a cure or a prevention for rheumatism, gout, indigestion, or inactivity. Based on primary sources and secondary works; 70 notes.

Nancy L. Struna

II-18

Francis, David W. "A Reminiscence of Old Cedar Point," *Northwest Ohio Quarterly*, 49, No. 1 (Winter 1976-77), 3-18.

The development of rail and steamship transportation to this beach area on Lake Erie transformed Cedar Point into a middle class amusement phenomenon during the late 1890s. Its hotels, amusements, midway, and other attractions rivaled Atlantic City and Coney Island. As many as 25,000 people visited this area on a Sunday in its heyday. The area deteriorated and its popularity slacked with the increased competition from other modern amusements. It nearly collapsed during the late 1950s, but a group of businessmen purchased it and revitalized it. The article consists of many memories and anecdotes of Miss Tamm. There are three steamship photographs. Based upon interviews with Ms. Harriet Tamm of Sandusky, Ohio; 3 illustrations; 47 notes.

John R. Schlepfi

II-19

Hazard, Joseph T. "Winter Sports in the Western Mountains," *Pacific Northwest Quarterly*, 44, No. 1 (January 1953), 7-14.

Skiing as a popular recreation in the Pacific Northwest dates from the period after World War I. Although Mount Rainier in the state of Washington was first used for skiing in late 1912, there were scarcely a dozen skiers in the Northwest until the war popularized the ski as an effective military tool. The recreation boom began in 1925 with the introduction of controlled skiing. During the late 1920s, Mount Hood near Portland became a popular spot for recreational skiing thanks to a local millionaire who had the mountain plowed all-year-round. In 1936 the Union Pacific Railroad opened Sun Valley, Idaho, the most luxurious ski resort of its time. By the early fifties, Sun Valley was sponsoring lessons for beginners at relatively popular prices. Based on secondary works; no notes.

Lee Elihu Lowenfish

II-20

Johnson, Paul C. "Turn of the Wheel: The Motor Car Vs. Yosemite," *California Historical Society Quarterly*, 51, No. 3 (Fall 1972), 205-212.

In 1912 the American Alpine Club asked John Muir: "Shall automobiles be allowed to enter Yosemite?" Although autos had been excluded from Yosemite since the turn of the century, a rapidly improving rural road system and the greatly expanding number of privately owned motor vehicles forced authorities to permit automobiles into the area by 1914. A list of sixty-five regulations governing autos in Yosemite was issued by the Department of the Interior for the 1914 season. The article reproduces the list verbatim. 3 notes.

Roberta J. Park

II-21

Gilbert, Bil. "A Turn Along the Old Pike," "Across the Wide Missouri," "A Trail That Stops at the Sea," *Sports Illustrated*, 44, Nos. 25, 26, 27 (June, July 1976), 64-76; 34-44; 30-41.

In a three-part article in celebration of the Bicentennial, the author traveled US. Highway 40 from coast to coast and experienced an amalgam of sporting America. He found that "no matter how small, nearly every community has some unique sporting characteristic of which it is officially proud." The first part covers the area from Atlantic City to Vandalia, Illinois, the second from New Franklin, Missouri to Gorham, Kansas, and the third part from Rocky Mountain National Park to San Francisco. This series, a blend of contemporary and historical sporting America, includes all sports from horseshoes to pro football. No notes.

Ray C. Thurmond

II-22

Cantwell, Robert. "Sport was Box Office Poison," *Sports Illustrated*, 31, No. 12, (September 1969), 111-116.

Thomas Edison made the first sport film in history. For the next 40 years, sport and sports heroes were in some way connected with film content and production. Of the films made during this era, the spoofs, such as the polo match in a Keystone comedy, were by far the best. Box office disaster, however, was common among sports films. Even a film starring Babe Ruth himself, struck out at the box office. Because many early sport movies were films of actual events, often partisan fans questioned official judgments, such as the decision in the Jeffries-Sharkey

fight. The basic weakness of all these early films was that "Hollywood was never able to fuse hoke and sports in the way it fused hoke and every other human endeavor." The proof is in the viewing. No notes.

Maxine Grace Hunter

II-23

Gibson, A. M. "The National Cowboy Hall of Fame," *Agricultural History*, 33, No. 3 (July 1959), 103-106.

The National Cowboy Hall of Fame, chartered in 1955, has served as an association to honor the range industry generally and those individuals particularly who have made "significant contributions to the progress and tradition of the West." These contributors include cowboys, cattlemen, pioneers, trailblazers and the like. The article cites a short historical development of the concept of the Hall and the seedwork done by Chester A. Reynolds on its behalf. Early honorees are listed. Based on a few primary sources and related secondary works; 17 notes.

Tony Ladd

II-24

Thomas, Alvin Clarence. "Soundings from Titanic," *Sports Illustrated* (October 1972), 96-112.

Alvin Clarence Thomas, better known in gambling circles as Titanic Thompson, claims to have been the world's greatest hustler. His gambling career began at age eleven when he propositioned a man that his water spaniel could fetch the exact rock he would throw into the pond. A marked rock was to be used. What the victim did not know was that the pond bottom was covered with rocks marked the same as the one to be thrown. Titanic always made sure that the odds were in his favor. Later in his career, he became a golf fanatic. Although he played well enough for the professional tour, he found it more profitable to hustle unsuspecting victims. Titanic was known to play anyone, at anytime, in any game, for any amount of money. No notes.

Maxine Grace Hunter